

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ENERGY TASK

### FORCE COMMITTEE - JUNE 17, 2008

All members were present (Allen, Bartley, Chipman, Levensalor, McCurdy, Newman and Pelta. The “consultants” (Holt and Riesenber) did not attend. Dick Newman served as temporary chairman. The discussion focused on determining the Committee’s objectives for the year (through March 31, 2009), within the scope of the Mission Statement.

The consensus of the discussion was that we should concentrate on (1) CONSERVATION, and (2) a SOLAR or WIND project. Members believe that, while a prominent solar installation or a wind turbine (or turbines) are symbolically important and essential to generating clean energy, a successful conservation effort is the most immediate and feasible path to conserving energy in our town. Therefore, they recommend that a focused conservation effort begin immediately and work on an operating project be postponed till later.

Members felt that our conservation efforts should include (1) identifying and recommending reliable local vendors for residents who are interested in commissioning an energy audit of their home (2) developing and recommending a program of energy conservation for residents who want to do their own work (3) asking that the Town Offices building commission an energy audit (4) preparing a set of concrete action for the Town Offices, based on the audit and other actions we believe will reduce energy consumption, including window replacement, insulation, control of lighting usage et al.

Members believe we should actively disseminate the information and recommendations we develop for energy saving. This can be accomplished by broadcasts on our TV station, by making written instructions generally available, and by distribution via schools. We plan a series of TV programs discussing (a) conservation, and (b) clean energy generation.

We intend to visit other towns in Maine (and possibly in other nearby New England areas) where conservation and clean energy generation are progressing successfully, wind turbines and/or solar power have been installed and facilitating ordinances have been legislated. Our objective is to learn about their methods and observe the generating facilities. We plan a trip to Mars Hill and to Saco.

A Committee member suggested we think about the potential for bus routes on #123 and #24. Another suggested the possibility of pooling purchase of heating oil.

We will elect a permanent Chairman, and possibly a Vice Chairman, at the next meeting (4:00 PM at the Town Offices on Thursday, July 17.)

R. T. Newman